

MONTHLY SUMMARY  
OF  
BUSINESS STATISTICS

No. 159, July 31, 1944.

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SYDNEY:  
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1944.

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## SECTION A.—RAINFALL AND PRODUCTION.

## 1. RAINFALL—INDEX.

Index showing Weighted Average Ratio of Actual to Normal Rainfall.

(Average rainfall for each month = 100.)

Month.	Sheep Districts.					Wheat Districts.				Dairying Districts. (Coastal only).			
	N.	C.	S.	W.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.
1943.													
June ...	63	49	48	36	51	66	55	50	53	25	19	34	25
July ...	53	58	87	71	67	58	63	96	83	4	12	5	6
August ...	105	96	120	82	105	88	103	106	103	112	224	231	156
September ...	110	118	120	115	116	111	125	123	122	124	144	120	128
October ...	98	79	100	64	90	93	74	85	83	156	104	189	147
November ...	175	197	163	115	170	149	204	162	171	215	220	158	209
December ...	89	51	30	4	50	76	52	14	32	212	125	106	176
1944.													
January ...	95	42	13	17	45	87	42	9	28	232	119	33	178
February ...	70	78	11	112	58	83	56	11	32	29	70	12	37
March ...	19	50	57	30	41	15	52	55	49	54	51	25	50
April ...	34	33	105	70	61	52	36	104	80	4	48	102	28
May ...	122	123	155	63	127	169	118	134	135	27	51	232	59
June ...	21	13	13	19	16	21	13	12	14	62	62	20	57

N.—Northern; C.—Central; S.—Southern; W.—Western; T.—Total, all districts.

## 2. WOOL.

The total production of wool in New South Wales was 546,273,000 lb. in 1939-40; 536,907,000 lb. in 1940-41; 547,000,000 lb. in 1941-42; 497,538,000 lb. in 1942-43 and 537,410,000 lb. in 1943-44.

The British Government has entered into a contract with the Commonwealth to purchase the wool clips of Australia for the duration of the war and one year thereafter. The agreed average price for seasons 1939-40 to 1941-42 was 10'75d. sterling or 13'4375d. Australian Currency, per lb. This price was increased to 12'3625d. sterling or 15'4531d. Australian Currency per lb., commencing with the 1942-43 clip.

Month.	Number of Bales Received into Store in Sydney.							
	During Month.				Total for Season to end of Month.			
	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.
July ...	86,083	80,397	67,442	83,715	86,083	80,397	67,442	83,715
August ...	217,280	191,662	128,260	105,532	303,363	272,059	195,702	189,247
September ...	276,849	269,889	180,883	158,065	580,212	541,948	376,585	347,312
October ...	290,271	288,766	195,950	173,622	870,483	830,714	572,535	520,934
November ...	168,109	166,462	159,518	128,231	1,038,592	997,176	732,053	649,165
December ...	46,775	63,866	88,943	94,774	1,085,367	1,061,042	820,996	743,939
January ...	17,462	24,821	37,273	135,652	1,102,829	1,085,863	858,209	879,591
February ...	28,676	31,461	30,274	60,931	1,131,505	1,117,324	888,483	940,522
March ...	34,609	29,000	44,208	43,493	1,166,114	1,146,324	932,691	984,015
April ...	37,414	43,583	40,835	42,000	1,203,528	1,189,907	973,526	1,026,015
May ...	38,423	36,173	41,491	51,274	1,241,951	1,226,080	1,015,017	1,077,289
June ...	29,758	37,597	56,745	56,870	1,271,709	1,263,677	1,071,762	1,134,159

# NEW SOUTH WALES.

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## 3. WHEAT.

Production in New South Wales. Compiled from returns of wheatgrowers.

Season.	Area under Wheat.		Yield of Grain.	
	Total.	Harvested For Grain.	Total.	Average per Acre.
Average 1933-34		acres.	acres.	bushels.
to 1942-43	...	4,492,000	4,126,000	52,591,000
1940-41	...	4,866,000	4,454,000	23,933,000
1941-42	...	4,342,000	3,969,000	48,500,000
1942-43	...	3,386,000	3,033,000	51,693,000
1943-44	...	2,975,000	2,693,000	47,500,000

## 4. BUTTER.

The production of butter in factories in the eleven months ended May, 1944, was 5·4 per cent. less than in the corresponding period last season.

Since November, 1939, the British Government has purchased under contract the exportable surplus of Australian butter. The contract price for choicest was 137s. 2d. per cwt. f.o.b. Australian ports to July, 1942, and 142s. 6d. since that date. The wholesale price for local consumption was fixed at 158s. 8d. per cwt. on 8th June, 1938, and increased to 166s. 6d. on 6th March, 1942.

Month.	Output of Butter—(New South Wales factories).				
	Average, 1935-36 to 1937-38.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.
Year ended 30th June	113,010	103,683	85,116	93,775	
Eleven months ended May	107,675	98,499	79,649	90,097	85,263
			Thousand lb.		
July	4,575	5,047	4,592	5,163	3,313
September	6,879	6,453	5,850	5,952	4,933
December	12,146	11,365	8,608	12,032	13,079
January	14,089	14,453	6,664	13,044	12,821
February	13,035	12,786	8,311	10,219	10,184
March	13,033	11,743	10,116	8,648	8,440
April	10,200	8,682	8,642	6,129	5,165
May	7,306	6,756	6,789	4,789	3,870
June	5,335	5,183	5,467	3,679	...

## 5. MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

Tabulations embracing monthly returns from 42 large factories show the following results, which afford some indication of trends in the manufacturing industry:—

Month.	Factory Sales.				Employees.				Weekly Salaries and Wages.			
	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
	Thousand £.											
January	3,465	4,519	5,808	4,965	257	282	275	261	1,124	1,459	1,563	1,493
February	4,074	4,768	4,799	5,712	267	282	272	258	1,218	1,484	1,540	1,476
March	4,196	5,097	5,451	5,765	272	280	270	256	1,246	1,477	1,534	1,469
April	4,011	4,904	5,424	4,830	272	278	271	256	1,194	1,513	1,501	1,449
May	4,300	4,925	5,696	5,878	276	278	269	253	1,302	1,517	1,517	1,447
June	4,017	5,077	5,632	...	280	277	269	...	1,292	1,504	1,544	...
July	4,638	5,410	5,520	...	284	277	268	...	1,353	1,531	1,514	...
August	4,264	5,003	5,500	...	283	277	266	...	1,380	1,532	1,533	...
September	4,746	5,352	5,710	...	269	277	267	...	1,365	1,564	1,525	...
October	4,994	5,420	5,753	...	285	280	266	...	1,428	1,576	1,536	...
November	4,729	5,826	5,701	...	280	280	264	...	1,467	1,603	1,517	...
December	5,398	5,853	5,653	...	288	279	265	...	1,555	1,583	1,552	...
Average (January-December)	4,403	5,180	5,554	...	277	279	269	...	1,327	1,534	1,537	...

Further particulars of employment in factories are shown in Table 20.

## NEW SOUTH WALES.

## 6. BUILDING INDUSTRY.

## (a) SUMMARY OF PRIVATE BUILDING.

Value of permits to erect new buildings and additions (compiled from returns of Municipal and certain Shire Councils). Government buildings are excluded.

Year.	Month of June.			June Quarter.		
	Sydney and Suburbs.	City of Sydney.	Suburbs of Sydney.	Industrial and Rural Towns.		Total, New South Wales.*
	Total New Buildings and Additions.	New Buildings and Additions.	New Buildings.	No. of Permits.	Value.	New Buildings and Additions.
1942 ...	£104,634	£17,762	7	43,740	265	£204,480
1943 ...	131,271	30,915	23	28,963	73	33,352
1944 ...	82,582	8,741	28	12,636	115†	57,258†

\* Metropolis, 7 adjacent Shires and 129 rural and industrial towns; other areas not recorded. †Subject to revision.

## (b) CLASSES OF PRIVATE BUILDING.

The following dissection of private building permits granted in Sydney and Suburbs and in 129 Industrial and Rural Towns in N.S.W. shows the total value for each of the principal classes of building:—

Period.	Value of New Buildings and Alterations and Additions.						
	Houses.		Flats. (a)	Factories.	Shops (b) and Public Garages.	Other (Offices, Hotels, Hospitals, etc.).	Total.
	Brick.	Wood, Fibro, etc.					
£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Month of June—							
1942	1	...	...	94	...	10	105
1943	3	3	1	93	1	30	131
1944	7	12	1	47	2	14	83
Year ended 30th June,							
1942	3,022	609	878	1,061	60	339	5,969
1943	35	36	2	1,042	16	269	1,400
1944	55	76	13	960	16	245	1,365
June Quarter—							
1943	4	28	1	21	7	32	93
1944†	5	51	1	34	8	41	140
Year ended 30th June,							
1943	19	118	4	89	18	118	366
1944†	23	140	7	142	18	135	465
129 Industrial and Rural Towns.							

Includes (a) conversions to flats; (b) shops with dwellings attached. †Subject to revision.

## (c) GOVERNMENT BUILDING.

In addition to totals for private building shown above, values of contracts accepted for the erection of buildings on behalf of Governments and semi-Governmental authorities in New South Wales were as follow:—

Area.	Value of New Buildings and Additions (Governmental).			
	Month of June.		Year ended 30th June.	
	1943.	1944.	1943.	1944.
Sydney and Suburbs ...	£000 177	£000 74	£000 2,847	£000 1,870
Remainder of State ...	131	93	2,120	814
Total, New South Wales ...	308	167	4,967	2,684

NOTE—Temporary structures for protection against Air Raids and alterations for this purpose are, in general, excluded.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

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SECTION B.—TRADE.

7. WHOLESALE TRADE.

Approximate Amount of Sales (N.S.W.) by Traders Registered under Sales Tax Acts.  
Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.

Period.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
Million £s.							
Year ended 31st December ...	192.97	200.29	202.79	229.03	238.65	240.54	...
January ...	14.21	13.24	16.33	15.83	18.69	17.18	18.02
February ...	15.73	16.54	14.64	17.48	19.39	21.60	20.48
March ...	15.79	15.78	16.97	17.40	19.53	19.44	18.00
April ...	16.83	15.79	17.88	19.06	19.19	21.88	21.68
May ...	16.87	17.46	14.85	18.75	20.72	19.56	21.45
June ...	14.98	14.88	17.07	21.76	18.93	20.91	...
July ...	16.23	15.28	16.74	17.63	19.17	19.81	...
August ...	15.29	16.81	17.17	20.41	20.86	18.75	...
September ...	17.45	19.44	17.48	21.60	19.59	19.93	...
October ...	15.66	19.22	18.50	18.25	22.06	20.80	...
November ...	16.93	17.53	18.13	20.58	19.54	21.07	...
December ...	17.00	18.32	17.03	20.28	20.98	19.61	...

8. RETAIL TRADE.

Returns collected by the Retail Traders' Association Research Bureau in conjunction with the Commonwealth Bank from the principal Sydney stores indicate the following increases or decreases per cent. for periods shown below compared with corresponding periods of previous year:—

Period.	Number of Business Days in Period.		Net Sales (Value).	Value of Stock.	Wages and Salaries Paid.	Number of Employees.	Three Monthly Moving Average ended month shown.	
	Previous Year.	Current Year.					Net Sales (Value).	Wages and Salaries Paid.
<b>Year ended December—</b>								
1938 ...	303	303	+ 4.8	+ 5.2	+ 11.6	+ 5.0		
1939 ...	303	303	+ 2.4	+ 2.0	+ 2.6	+ 0.9		
1940 ...	303	305	+ 6.3	+ 17.0	+ 4.0	+ 1.9		
1941 ...	305	304	+ 14.6	+ 8.0	+ 9.0	+ 4.0		
1942 ...	304	304	- 5.3	+ 9.2	- 5.1	- 8.4		
1943 ...	303	306	- 11.3	- 6.8	- 9.7	- 17.6		
<b>1943.</b>								
May ...	26	26	+ 0.8	- 11.1	- 11.1	- 19.7	- 9.8	- 12.2
June ...	25	26	- 1.3	- 10.2	- 7.6	- 15.7	- 6.0	- 11.7
July ...	27	25	- 25.5	- 7.7	- 8.3	- 14.7	- 8.2	- 9.0
August ...	26	26	- 20.7	- 11.4	- 7.0	- 15.0	- 16.2	- 7.6
September ...	26	26	- 11.5	- 10.0	- 6.8	- 14.6	- 19.3	- 7.3
October ...	26	25	- 9.9	- 9.1	- 7.5	- 13.2	- 14.3	- 7.1
November ...	25	26	- 1.7	- 10.1	- 3.8	- 12.2	- 7.7	- 6.0
December ...	24	25	+ 5.4	- 12.8	- 5.3	- 11.4	- 1.6	- 5.5
<b>1944.</b>								
January ...	25	23	- 10.0	- 12.6	- 5.5	- 11.0	- 1.1	- 4.9
February ...	24	25	+ 1.6	- 2.9	+ 1.9	- 7.4	- 0.2	- 3.2
March ...	27	27	+ 10.4	- 5.1	- 1.3	- 8.8	+ 1.3	- 1.8
April ...	26	21	- 8.8	- 3.3	- 6.6	- 8.5	+ 0.5	- 2.2
May ...	26	27	+ 0.7	- 0.6	- 0.8	- 6.6	+ 0.5	- 2.9

Further particulars of monthly employment in retail trade are shown in Table 20.

## NEW SOUTH WALES.

## SECTION C.—TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC.

## 9. RAILWAYS.

## NEW SOUTH WALES RAILWAYS REVENUE AND BUSINESS.

The financial results of operations were:—

	Month of May.			Eleven months ended 31st May.		
	Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.	Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.
1942 ...	£ 2,712,793	£ 2,468,769	£ 244,024	£ 25,232,671	£ 18,283,276	£ 6,949,395
1943 ...	2,924,469	1,933,940	990,529	31,254,796	22,834,730	8,420,066
1944 ...	2,851,861	2,088,358	763,503	31,698,346	24,143,816	7,554,530

\* Excluding capital charges, viz, interest, exchange, sinking fund, etc., which amounted to £6,754,000 in 1942-43.

	Month of May		Eleven months ended 31st May.	
	Tonnage of Goods and Livestock.*	Passenger Journeys.	Tonnage of Goods and Livestock.*	Passenger Journeys.
1942 ...	thousands.	thousands.	thousands.	thousands.
1942 ...	1,645	19,181	17,075	199,368
1943 ...	1,578	21,067	17,983	216,919
1944 ...	1,683	22,039	17,789	229,543

\* Partly estimated.

## 10. TRAMWAYS AND OMNIBUSES.

## SERVICES OPERATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ROAD TRANSPORT, NEW SOUTH WALES

PERIOD.	SYDNEY AND SUBURBS.			NEWCASTLE AND SUBURBS.		
	Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers carried.†	Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers carried.†
Month of May—	£	£	thousands.	£	£	thousands.
1942 ...	435,034	64,319	39,000	41,815	9,485	3,144
1943 ...	429,139	52,771	39,246	43,628	6,735	3,359
1944 ...	429,700	27,400	39,854	46,100	7,900	3,725
Eleven months ended 31st May—						
1942 ...	4,591,675	713,070	411,650	404,485	97,847	30,688
1943 ...	4,676,474	657,821	426,556	458,533	72,935	35,163
1944 ...	4,745,920	454,210	433,529	489,520	75,800	39,191

\* Exclusive of Sinking Fund, Interest on Loan Capital, Exchange and Current Depreciation which amounted to £569,000 in 1942-43.

† Exclusive of Sydney Harbour Bridge passengers whose journey did not extend beyond the Bridge Section.

## 11. MOTOR VEHICLES.

## NUMBER OF REGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES (N.S.W.) AS AT VARIOUS DATES.

(Exclusive of Vehicles of Defence Services.)

Class.	1939. 31st August.	1942.		1943.		1944.			
		31st December.	30th June.	31st December.	31st March.	30th April.	31st May.	30th June.	
Cars	216,633	172,028	173,188	177,245	178,986	179,539	180,000	180,938	
Lorries and Vans	77,639	71,276	72,159	75,068	76,450	76,901	77,528	78,023	
Trailers	6,538	6,118	6,873	7,409	7,079	7,775	7,857	7,621	
Tractors	1,102	1,375	1,382	1,429	1,455	1,466	1,494	1,517	
Cycles—Solo	17,111	10,120	9,641	9,842	10,016	10,132	10,201	11,162	
Cycles—Side-car	6,884	4,702	4,583	4,518	4,581	4,585	4,600	3,735	
Omnibuses	794	901	913	913	931	936	944	977	
Taxi-cabs	1,331	1,350	1,349	1,348	1,348	1,349	1,349	1,349	
Traders' Plates	1,187	649	610	634	609	612	618	624	
Total	329,219	269,219	270,638	278,406	282,055	283,295	284,591	285,946	

† Excluding tractors used on farms only.

## Average Weekly Number of New Vehicles Registered.\*

Year.	Cars (Including Cabs and Omnibuses).						Lorries and Vans.					
	Jan.	Feb.	March.	April.	May.	June.	Jan.	Feb.	March.	April.	May.	June.
1940	246	333	268	243	176	115	87	110	106	114	103	70
1941	141	163	167	121	89	40	53	70	71	47	46	40
1942	23	26	18	20	21	29	32	25	23	24	16	10
1943	7	19	7	7	6	4	6	8	13	17	40	45
1944	3	5	4	5	4	6	67	74	88	83	84	84

\* Excluding trailers.

## 12. WIRELESS LICENSES.

## BROADCAST LISTENERS' LICENSES IN FORCE IN N.S.W.

(Excluding Experimental Licenses.)

End of Month.	1939-40.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.	No.	
						No.	No.
September	432,795	479,485	500,125	509,332	554,227		
December	441,934	483,875	501,253	523,920	558,381		
January	444,522	485,854	503,346	527,733	556,775		
February	446,927	488,362	500,449	533,597	561,066		
March	447,310	491,816	502,810	536,795	560,665		
April	451,218	494,004	503,494	537,319	561,638		
May	455,162	495,238	500,565	543,419	563,277		
June	458,155	494,884	500,451	552,044	560,032		

## SECTION D.—FINANCIAL.

## 13. SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS (NEW SOUTH WALES).†

As at June 30th.	Amount of Deposits. †	End of Month.	Amount of Deposits.		
			1942.	1943.	1944.
1933	72,307,685	January	92,972,902	109,220,389	146,283,258
1934	75,714,070	February	90,647,010	112,817,955	150,374,605
1935	77,906,402	March	89,458,641	115,641,889	154,153,971
1936	79,999,948	April	91,110,603	115,500,011	156,024,547
1937	81,952,399	May	92,925,282	118,016,266	157,044,862
1938	86,015,685	June†	94,537,937	122,405,481	162,867,225
1939	87,473,789	July	97,330,938	126,688,719	*****
1940	82,110,900	August	99,727,345	130,518,639	*****
1941	87,750,208	September	101,385,379	134,162,891	*****
1942	94,537,937	October	103,583,441	136,326,132	*****
1943	122,405,481	November	104,929,899	138,328,054	*****
1944	162,867,225	December	105,744,876	142,108,496	*****

† Including accrued interest.

† Amount at credit of depositors' accounts.

WAR SAVINGS CERTIFICATES: The net amount received from sales of certificates less re-purchases in New South Wales totalled £15,738,332 as at 30th June, 1944, including £248,928 net receipts in June.

## 14. TRADING BANKS\*—DEPOSITS, ETC., IN AUSTRALIA.

June Quarter.	Deposits.	Cash in Aust. <sup>†</sup>	Treasury Bills.	Govt. and Municipal Securities.	Special Wartime Deposits with Comw'th Bank.	Advances.
1940 ...	£000 353,124	£000 38,986	£000 41,760	£000 41,857	£000 ...	£000 286,784
1941 ...	367,702	36,365	41,103	61,251	...	283,054
1942 ...	389,112	38,582	39,559	56,278	36,797	269,944
1943 ...	457,960	32,392	60,792	72,993	100,401	244,776
1944 ...	540,613	38,467	64,640 <sup>‡</sup>	84,063 <sup>‡</sup>	178,600	224,858

\*Nine Private Banks.

† Exclusive of London Funds.

‡ Subject to revision.

## 15. PRIVATE BUSINESS IN PRIVATE BANKS (N.S.W.).

(Excluding Commonwealth and Rural Banks, and excluding Government deposits and Government Securities in Private Trading Banks.)

June Quarter.	Deposits.			Advances.	Excess of Deposits over Advances.
	Not Bearing Interest (Current).	Bearing Interest (Fixed).	Total.		
1940 ...	£000 60,392	£000 66,276	£000 126,668	£000 117,910	£000 8,758
1941 ...	69,855	65,814	135,669	113,890	21,779
1942 ...	81,308	61,784	143,092	107,896	35,196
1943 ...	103,413	64,165	167,578	93,349	74,229
1944 ...	128,215	73,040	201,255	83,917	117,338

## 16. INTER-BANK CLEARINGS (SYDNEY).

(Value of cheques drawn on a Bank other than the Bank in which they were Deposited.)

Month.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
	Amount—Million £								Index Numbers.					
January ...	67.5	66.5	82.7	90.3	92.0	106.7	107.5	97	98	110	117	123	136	150
February ...	75.6	75.5	88.9	82.0	97.1	105.7	121.2	96	96	110	114	123	139	147
March ...	82.6	80.5	87.8	89.4	102.6	123.4	130.1	95	93	107	110	119	138	146
April ...	75.7	70.7	84.3	86.9	95.4	125.3	108.4	102	98	111	111	125	150	150
May ...	82.9	82.0	90.2	106.3	98.9	123.0	143.6	103	100	111	117	125	155	158
June ...	86.8	80.3	94.5	97.4	116.6	132.6	140.1	106	101	115	123	133	163	166
July ...	70.5	71.2	94.6	98.9	99.7	114.3	...	101	98	116	125	130	155	...
August ...	72.9	74.9	83.6	87.0	99.0	122.7	...	101	99	118	123	135	160	...
September ...	77.6	74.9	84.5	94.9	105.6	116.5	...	101	99	117	124	134	155	...
October ...	79.5	78.0	90.1	101.8	115.0	115.5	...	101	100	113	123	138	152	...
November ...	82.7	86.1	93.5	99.6	105.0	129.3	...	102	102	114	124	135	149	...
December ...	88.1	91.7	100.1	104.9	121.6	127.3	...	102	106	115	124	136	150	...
Year ...	942.4	932.3	1074.8	1139.4	1248.5	1442.3	...	101	100	113	120	131	151	...

The index may be regarded as an approximate measure of changes in the volume of business transactions settled by cheques provided it is considered in conjunction with changes in price levels. It represents the ratio of each month's clearings to the average for the month concerned during the five years 1926-1930. This average is represented by 100 each month. Seasonal fluctuations have thus been eliminated. Casual fluctuations in monthly index numbers have been smoothed out by taking a three months' moving average, that is, the index shown above for each month is the average of the actual index of that month and the preceding two months. It may be compared vertically or horizontally.

The index is adjusted to eliminate the effects of Treasury Bill and other special transactions on behalf of Governments and the effects of bank amalgamations. No adjustment has been made for normal growth or change of price levels. The amounts of clearings shown are the recorded totals less Treasury Bill transactions only.

## 17. INTEREST RATES PER CENT. (N.S.W.).

Period.	Private First Mortgages Registered.		Yield on Commonwealth Government Securities†—subject to Commonwealth Income Tax—					
	Weighted Average Rate of Interest.*		Not exceeding Rates in force in 1930.			At Current Rates.		
	Urban Securities.	Rural Securities.	Short- dated.	Medium- dated.	Long- dated.	Short- dated. 2 years.	Long- dated. 12 years.	
Average for year—			Under 5 years.	5 to 10 years.	10 years and over.			
1937 ... ... ...	5.3	5.0	3.44	3.75	3.84	...	...	...
1938 ... ... ...	5.4	5.0	3.38	3.71	3.73	...	...	...
1939 ... ... ...	5.6	5.2	3.84	3.87	3.92	...	...	...
1940 ... ... ...	5.6	5.1	3.14	3.25	3.30	...	...	...
1941 ... ... ...	5.5	4.9	2.45	2.95	3.10	...	...	...
1941 ... ... ...	5.5	4.9	2.42	2.87	3.13	2.47	3.23	3.23
1942 ... ... ...	5.4	4.9	2.39	2.89	3.11	2.45	3.24	3.24
1943 ... ... ...	5.0	4.7	2.43	2.72	2.96	2.48	3.23	3.23
Months—			2 years.	7 years.	12 years.			
1944—January ...	5.0	4.5	2.36	2.75	3.04	2.47	3.24	3.24
February ...	5.0	4.5	2.36	2.70	3.00	2.48	3.24	3.24
March ...	5.0	4.5	2.40	2.69	3.02	2.48	3.24	3.24
April ...	5.0	4.5	2.38	2.68	3.00	2.48	3.24	3.24
May ...	5.0	4.4	2.32	2.59	2.94	2.48	3.24	3.24
June ...	5.0	4.4	2.32	2.62	2.95	2.49	3.24	3.24

\* Average of three months ended month shown.  
† Compiled by Commonwealth Bank as at last Wednesday in month.

## 18. REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS (N.S.W.).

(Registered under Real Property Act and Registration of Deeds Act.)

Month.	Consideration of Sales.					Amount of Mortgages.*				
	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
Thousand £.										
January ... ... ... ...	1,884	2,383	2,815	2,226	1,090	1,480	1,148	916	595	383
February ... ... ... ...	2,524	2,557	2,472	2,294	1,506	1,428	1,329	975	390	611
March ... ... ... ...	2,464	2,677	2,083	2,550	1,552	1,686	1,326	996	503	663
April ... ... ... ...	2,392	2,574	2,276	1,517	931	1,560	1,305	891	536	302
May ... ... ... ...	2,908	2,835	1,154	1,185	1,307	1,449	1,324	526	381	495
June ... ... ... ...	2,464	3,029	1,266	1,358	1,809	1,305	1,273	599	400	687
July ... ... ... ...	3,217	3,165	1,540	1,783	...	1,748	1,470	622	399	...
August ... ... ... ...	2,259	2,545	1,671	1,379	...	1,099	1,213	451	450	...
September ... ... ... ...	3,149	2,941	1,616	1,551	...	1,240	1,571	516	432	...
October ... ... ... ...	2,885	3,013	1,514	1,549	...	1,144	1,413	423	618	...
November ... ... ... ...	2,430	2,548	1,942	1,558	...	1,259	1,022	530	558	...
December ... ... ... ...	2,477	2,972	1,260	1,592	...	1,099	1,242	562	494	...
Year ... ... ... ...	31,053	33,239	21,609	17,542	...	16,497	15,630	8,007	5,756	...

\* Including new mortgages and renewals as registered.

NOTE.—The amounts shown relate substantially to mortgages of fixed amounts for fixed periods, and exclude fluctuating advances (such as overdrafts) secured by mortgage. Mortgages providing collateral security are included.

## 19. LIENS ON CROPS AND WOOL AND MORTGAGES ON LIVESTOCK.

(Registered under Liens on Crops and Wool and Stock Mortgages Act.)

	Month of June.			Six months ended 30th June.		
	Crops.*	Wool.*	Livestock.*			
				£	£	£
1941 ... ... ...	132,330	371,384	200,645	1,630,811	1,881,695	725,463
1942 ... ... ...	188,607	308,660	47,425	1,260,791	1,574,486	406,269
1943 ... ... ...	127,617	180,635	50,531	1,027,936	1,135,900	404,507
1944 ... ... ...	90,154	166,308	64,794	738,334	838,896	324,552

See note under Table 18. \*Loans secured by both lien on wool and mortgage on sheep are included under both headings.

## NEW SOUTH WALES.

## SECTION E.—GENERAL.

## 20. EMPLOYMENT IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

## WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS IN CIVIL EMPLOYMENT.

The estimates shown below are based on Civilian Registers and returns supplied monthly by employers for purposes of Commonwealth Pay-roll Tax as from July, 1941. Employees in defence forces at home or abroad and Government "relief" workers are not included.

Month.	Estimated Total Employment, (Excluding Rural, Household, Domestic and Defence Forces.)			Estimated Employment in Main Industrial Groups.						
	Governmental Authorities.	Private Employers.	Total.	Mining and Quarrying.	Factories.	Building and Construction.	Transport and Communication.	Retail Trade.	Other Commerce and Finance.	Professional and Personal Services.
	(a)			(b)	(c)				(d)	
1933—June	1032	2775	3807	945	...	...	...	...	...	...
1939—July	1365	3934	5299	1588	...	...	...	...	...	...
1941—July	1415	4048	5493	258	2021	536	782	413	433	525
Nov.	1443	4111	5554	258	2105	505	798	415	446	526
1942—July	1586	3760	5346	254	2133	442	803	323	360	460
Dec.	1545	3754	5299	250	2157	361	799	319	293	349
1943—Mar.	1562	3721	5283	247	2184	343	802	289	335	445
May	1565	3675	5240	250	2190	313	798	289	336	440
June	1558	3679	5237	252	2189	311	802	289	335	435
July	1566	3654	5220	251	2174	309	815	287	332	433
Aug.	1559	3649	5208	250	2175	309	802	285	336	434
Sept.	1550	3650	5200	250	2178	309	806	284	334	438
Oct.	1549	3649	5198	251	2179	302	808	283	334	439
N.W.	1539	3662	5201	250	2180	291	809	282	338	441
Dec.	1526	3692	5218	247	2173	288	809	297	335	445
1944—Jan.	1525	3696	5221	246	2179	281	815	284	341	448
Mch.	1530	3696	5226	247	2177	280	822	283	342	447
April	1516	3698	5214	245	2165	275	823	283	345	449
May	1523	3692	5215	246	2162	270	828	284	343	450
								285	342	450
1933—June	168	1090	1258	363	...	...	...	...	...	...
1939—July	194	1486	1680	593	...	...	...	...	...	...
1941—July	217	1924	2241	02	760	07	81	409	176	568
Nov.	230	2015	2245	02	807	07	84	429	194	580
1942—July	293	2036	2329	02	848	07	90	411	207	589
Dec.	3591	2089	2440	02	911	07	106	419	210	598
1943—Mar.	387	2078	2465	02	926	07	114	397	210	616
May	410	2069	2479	02	939	07	117	391	208	620
June	429	2068	2497	02	946	07	123	391	207	622
July	458	2041	2499	02	946	07	129	385	205	623
Aug.	465	2050	2515	02	958	07	132	381	208	627
Sept.	467	2065	2532	02	964	07	131	380	208	633
Oct.	468	2079	2547	02	965	07	132	380	209	643
Nov.	470	2083	2553	02	962	07	134	383	208	644
Dec.	464	2100	2564	02	955	07	134	401	208	641
1944—Jan.	466	2055	2521	02	933	07	135	375	206	644
Feb.	472	2055	2527	02	931	07	138	373	206	648
Mch.	470	2070	2540	02	939	07	136	371	204	655
April	468	2051	2519	02	925	07	136	370	203	650
May	460	2056	2516	02	918	07	137	373	202	652
1933—June	1200	3865	5065	1308	...	...	...	...	...	...
1939—July	1559	5420	6679	2181	...	...	...	...	...	...
1941—July	1632	5972	7604	260	2781	543	863	822	609	1093
Nov.	1673	6126	7799	260	2912	512	882	844	640	1106
1942—July	1879	5796	7675	256	2981	449	893	734	567	1049
Dec.	1896	5843	7739	252	3068	368	905	738	567	1043
1943—Mar.	1949	5799	7748	249	311	350	916	690	559	1060
May	1975	5744	7719	252	3129	320	915	680	544	1060
June	1987	5747	7734	254	3135	318	925	680	542	1057
July	2024	5695	7719	253	3120	306	944	672	537	1056
Aug.	2024	5699	7723	252	3128	316	934	666	544	1061
Sept.	2017	5715	7732	252	3142	306	937	664	542	1071
Oct.	2017	5728	7745	253	3144	299	940	663	543	1082
Nov.	2009	5745	7754	252	3142	298	943	665	546	1083
Dec.	1990	5792	7782	249	3128	295	943	698	543	1086
1944—Jan.	1991	5751	7742	248	3112	288	950	659	547	1092
Feb.	2002	5754	7753	249	3108	287	960	656	548	1095
Mch.	1994	5778	7772	249	3119	288	955	654	549	1104
April	1984	5749	7733	247	3090	282	959	654	546	1100
May	1983	5748	7731	248	3080	277	965	658	544	1102

(a) Employees of Commonwealth, State and Local Government Authorities and of Allied Governments.

(b) Exclusive of Working Proprietors. Numbers for July, 1943, and later months are subject to revision.

(c) Includes Allied Works projects.

(d) Includes Education, Health, Hotels and Restaurants, Professional and Personal Services (except private domestic).

NOTE.—Estimates of employment in principal industries shown above replace former data which related to pay-roll Tax returns only.

## 21. CONSUMPTION OF GAS AND ELECTRICITY.

Index of Monthly Sales of Gas and Electricity (Sydney).  
(Based on number of units each equal to 3,412 British Thermal Units.)

Month.	Average, 1929 to 1931.	1929.	1932.	1934.	1936.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
January ...	100	103	93	100	110	119	125	136	141	141	164	155
February ...	100	105	95	100	112	122	125	135	142	145	159	161
March ...	100	102	95	99	101	121	130	130	143	146	164	165
April ...	100	104	96	101	110	119	125	137	141	147	164	162
May ...	100	106	95	100	110	122	128	128	146	144	166	172
June ...	100	103	99	103	114	127	131	135	150	154	174	176
July ...	100	105	97	100	112	126	134	139	149	158	171	...
August ...	100	106	97	103	107	128	135	137	151	157	181	...
September ...	100	108	97	101	113	123	134	134	151	158	171	...
October ...	100	109	96	104	113	121	135	137	154	163	162	...
November ...	100	109	97	104	116	124	136	139	152	161	164	...
December ...	100	105	99	106	116	124	131	138	153	165	163	...
Year ...	100	105	96	102	112	123	131	135	148	154	167	...

The base for each month is the average sales in the corresponding month of the three years, 1929 to 1931.

## 22. RETAIL PRICE INDEX NUMBERS—SYDNEY—WAR PERIOD.

(Base: Weighted Average for 6 Capital Cities in 1923-27 = 1,000)

Quarter.	Food and Groceries.	Rent— 4 and 5 rooms.	Clothing.	Miscellaneous Items.	Total Household Expenditure.	
					Index Number.	Increase from Sept. Quarter, 1939.
1939—September ...	930	1,039	841	939	933	...
1940—September ...	945	1,042	948	996	973	4·3
1941—September ...	947	1,043	1,129	1,062	1,027	10·1
1942—March ...	1,005	1,045	1,211	1,085	1,070	14·7
June ...	1,034	1,043	1,279	1,089	1,096	17·5
September ...	1,061	1,042	1,337	1,105	1,122	20·3
December ...	1,060	1,042	1,382	1,140	1,138	22·0
1943—March ...	1,050	1,042	1,408	1,145	1,141	22·3
June ...	1,065	1,042	1,479	1,162	1,165	24·9
September ...	1,039	1,042	1,493	1,176	1,154	23·7
December ...	1,015	1,042	1,449	1,179	1,143	22·5
1944—March ...	1,019	1,043	1,443	1,176	1,143	22·5
June ...	1,025	1,043	1,437	1,172	1,143	22·5

## 23. BASIC WAGE—INDUSTRIAL AWARDS.

Amount per week—Adult Males.

YEAR.	Sydney, Newcastle, Wollongong— Port Kembla.*				Crown Employees. (All Districts).			
	Quarterly adjustment commencing—							
	February.	May.	August.	November.	February.	May.	August.	November.
1939 ...	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1940 ...	81 0	82 0	81 0	82 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	80 0
1941 ...	82 0	83 0	85 0	85 0	81 0	81 0	83 0	84 0
1942 ...	88 0	88 0	89 0	89 0	86 0	87 0	87 0	88 0
1943 ...	91 0	93 0	95 0	97 0	90 0	92 0	94 0	96 0
1944 ...	98 0	98 0	100 0	99 0	97 0	97 0	99 0	98 0
	99 0	99 0	99 0	...	97 0	97 0	97 0	...

\* In all other districts, except Broken Hill, the rates were 3s. less.

In 1939 quarterly variations commenced in March, June, September and December.

## 24. PRICES OF METALS.

Average Monthly Prices of Metals (Export Parity f.o.b. Australia) in Australian Currency.

Period	Silver (Standard).	Lead.	Zinc (Electrolytic).	Tin (Standard).	Gold (Fine).
	per oz.	per ton.	per ton.	per ton.	per oz.
1929	2 0·57	21 14 5	25 19 5	200 11 5	4 4 11
1938	2 0·14	17 12 11	19 12 10	228 11 10	8 17 2
1939	2 1·42	17 12 1	19 15 3	268 3 6	9 14 4
1940	2 2·95	18 14 6	22 9 11	292 19 8	10 13 1
1941	2 4·26	19 11 4	22 12 11	295 1 6	10 13 8
1942	2 4·66	21 9 9	22 2 11	285 9 1	10 9 1
1943	2 4·63	22 19 2	23 15 2	283 1 6	10 9 0
1944—January	2 4·63	25 1 6	22 0 6	283 1 6	10 9 0
March	2 4·63	24 7 10	22 0 6	283 1 6	10 9 0
April	2 4·63	25 14 6	22 0 6	283 1 6	10 9 0
May	2 4·03	27 14 4	22 0 6	283 1 6	10 9 0

## 25. STOCK EXCHANGE INDEX (SYDNEY).

The following index of the values of the principal Company shares on Sydney Stock Exchange embraces the ordinary shares of companies (excluding banking companies) whose business is conducted wholly or largely in New South Wales.

The prices of individual shares are unweighted, and each group average is the mean of the average monthly prices per £ of paid-up capital. The aggregate index is the average for the whole of the shares included in the groups with the addition of 24 miscellaneous shares. There is no base period as the index represents the ratio per cent. of the average prices of ordinary shares to their par values, adjustment being made where capital is written off or bonus shares are issued.

Month.	Manufacturing and Distributing Companies.	10 Retail Companies.	8 Public Utility Companies.	5 Pastoral and Finance Companies.	5 Insurance Companies.	Total* 75.	34 Active Shares included in foregoing.
April, 1929	179·3	183·8	129·4	174·1	243·5	174·4	172·6
Sept., 1931	72·3	60·2	87·9	75·2	121·3	74·4	77·2
Mar., 1937	213·8	203·8	181·0	169·2	281·2	190·4	200·5
1943—June	234·7	177·8	141·3	132·8	254·1	179·7	196·2
July	235·4	181·4	143·2	133·0	254·1	181·0	197·6
August	235·7	189·2	145·2	133·1	254·1	182·7	198·9
Sept.	236·1	191·8	145·4	134·0	254·1	183·7	199·9
Oct.	236·5	192·8	146·6	134·3	254·1	184·3	200·3
Nov.	236·7	193·9	147·8	135·3	254·1	184·9	200·5
Dec.	236·9	193·8	148·2	135·0	254·1	185·2	200·4
1944—Jan.	237·1	193·8	148·3	135·0	254·1	185·4	200·4
Feb.	237·0	193·8	149·3	135·0	254·1	185·6	200·6
March	237·1	194·0	149·7	135·1	254·1	185·7	200·7
April	237·2	194·0	150·1	136·9	254·1	185·8	201·0
May	237·1	193·8	150·1	138·7	254·1	185·9	201·1
June	237·2	194·3	150·4	138·7	254·1	186·0	201·1

\* Including 24 Miscellaneous Companies. § The highest point of the index (75 Companies) prior to the slump was reached in April, 1929; the lowest point was in September, 1931. The highest point of the pre-war period was in March, 1937.

The population of N.S.W. at 31st December, 1943, was 2,869,978 or 39·5 per cent. of the total population of Australia (Sydney and Suburbs, 31st December, 1942, 1,384,380).

## NOTICE.

This summary is issued as soon as practicable after the end of each month. The subscription for twelve months is 3s. (posted) payable to the Government Printer, Phillip-street, Sydney, or 3d. per single copy at the Government Printing Office. This charge applies in all cases, except exchanges and Government Departments.

The figures for the most recent months are, in general, subject to revision.

Bureau of Statistics and Economics, 61 Hunter-street, Sydney.

31st July, 1944.